IN THE DRAWINGS

Formal drawings are included with this response.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below. A redlined version of the amended paragraphs is attached to this response as Appendix A.

Please replace the claims identified below with the following amended claims:

1. In a communication device, a method for reducing latency in a group communication network, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call; and

transmitting the floor-control request as an Internet protocol (IP) datagram on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

14. In a communication device, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for reducing latency in a group communication network, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call; and

transmitting the floor-control request as an Internet protocol (IP) datagram on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

A communication device for reducing latency in a group communication network, comprising:

means for receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call; and

means for transmitting the floor-control request as an Internet protocol (IP) datagram on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

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40. A communication device for reducing latency in a group communication network, the communication device comprising:

a receiver;

a transmitter; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call; and

transmitting the floor-control request as an Internet protocol (IP) datagram on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

- 53. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting includes transmitting the floor-control request, which is smaller than a predetermined size, in short data burst (SDB) form.
- 54. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the transmitting includes transmitting the floor-control request, which is smaller than a predetermined size, in short data burst (SDB) form.
- 55. (New) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the means for transmitting includes means for transmitting the floor-control request, which is smaller than a predetermined size, in short data burst (SDB) form.
- 56. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transmitting includes transmitting the floor-control request, which is smaller than a predetermined size, in short data burst (SDB) form.

57. (New) In a communication device, a method for reducing latency in a group communication network, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call;

packaging the received floor-control request in an Internet protocol (IP) datagram; determining whether the IP datagram is smaller that a predetermined size; and

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transmitting the IP datagram, which is smaller than a predetermined size, as a short data burst on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

58. (New) In a communication device, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for reducing latency in a group communication network, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call;

packaging the received floor-control request in an Internet protocol (IP) datagram; determining whether the IP datagram is smaller that a predetermined size; and transmitting the IP datagram, which is smaller than a predetermined size, as a short data burst on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

59. (New) A communication device for reducing latency in a group communication network, comprising:

means for receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call;

means for packaging the received floor-control request in an Internet protocol (IP) datagram;

means for determining whether the IP datagram is smaller that a predetermined size; and

means for transmitting the IP datagram, which is smaller than a predetermined size, as a short data burst on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.

60. (New) A communication device for reducing latency in a group communication network, the communication device comprising:

a receiver:

a transmitter; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a floor-control request from a user of the communication device who wishes to initiate a group call;

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packaging the received floor-control request in an Internet protocol (IP) datagram;

determining whether the IP datagram is smaller than a predetermined size; and

transmitting the IP datagram, which is smaller than a predetermined size, as a short data burst on a reverse common channel of a wireless network to a controller.